

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following header before the first paragraph on page 1:

B1 --Background of the invention--

Please replace the fourth paragraph beginning at page 1, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B2 --EP-A-0442599 discloses a battery having a plurality of alternating positive and negative plates; at least one tab protruding from one edge of each of the positive and negative plates; at least one tab protruding from an opposite edge of each of the positive and negative plates; a pair of negative plate straps connecting together each tab protruding from each negative plate; a pair of positive plate straps connecting together each tab protruding from each positive plate; a first diagonal bar connecting together the pair of negative plate straps; and a second diagonal bar connecting together the pair of positive plate straps.--

Please add the following header before the fifth paragraph on page 1:

B3 --Summary of the invention--

Please replace the first paragraph beginning at page 2, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B4 --In accordance with the invention a battery comprises a housing containing a plurality of positive plates connected in

B4
parallel and a plurality of negative plates connected in parallel, the positive plates each being of substantially the same size and rectangular shape having two long edges and a first short edge and a second short edge, and the housing also containing a member having a first end and a second end, the first end being electrically connected to the first short edges of the positive plates adjacent one of the two sets of long edges and the second end being electrically connected to the second short edges of the positive plates adjacent the same set of long edges or to the same set of long edges of the positive plates immediately adjacent to the second short edges, the members extending parallel to the [[said]] long edges for most of its length and consisting of a material which has a greater conductivity than the material of the positive plates.--

Please add the following header before the first paragraph on page 3, line 3:

B5
--Brief description of the drawings--

Please add the following header before the fourth paragraph on page 4, line 11:

B6
--Description of the preferred embodiments--

Please replace the third paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B7
--In the second embodiment of the invention, shown in Figure 2, the member of the first embodiment is replaced by a

lead sheathed copper strip member 28 having the same general shape and dimensions but positioned between a negative plate [[12]] (omitted from Figure 2 in the interest of clarity) and a positive plate 11 (as shown) or at one end of the row of plates so as to lie parallel thereto, and separated from the plates by one or more separating sheets. The tags 18 on the lower edges of the positive plates 11 are replaced by tags 30 on a longer side, adjacent the corner with the lower edge. These tags 30 are connected to a lead sheathed copper or lead strip connector 27 which lies alongside the longer sides of the plates ~~11 and 12~~, rather than alongside the lower edge as in the first embodiment.-

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